Serial No.: 10/055,795

Amendments to the Specification:

Kindly replace the Abstract with the following Amended Abstract:

A surgical, tubular-shafted instrument comprises a shaft, an operating rod mounted for displacement in the shaft, a handle part for actuating the operating rod and a connector that detachably connects the handle part to the shaft. The shaft is secured in an axial direction in an inner sleeve of the handle by a locking member that is displaceable radially in the inner sleeve and dips into a recess of the shaft. The radial outward movement of the locking member is limited by a stop element that is displaced into a position releasing the radial outward movement of the locking member. A holding element fixes the stop element in a release position and can be acted upon by the shaft to release the stop element due to displacement of the shaft in the inner sleeve. The holding element is guided for displacement in the handle part outside the inner sleeve.